**American Pie**

*By Don McLean*

A long, long time ago I can still remember how that music used to make me smile  
And I knew if I had my chance   
That I could make those people dance  
And maybe they'd be happy for a while.   
  
But February made me shiver   
With every paper I delivered,   
Bad news on the door step,   
I couldn't take one more step,   
  
I can't remember if I cried   
When I read about his widowed bride   
But something touched me deep inside,   
The day, the music, died.   
So...

***Refrain:***   
Bye, bye Miss American Pie   
Drove my Chevy to the levee but the levee was dry [6](http://www.wilstar.com/midi/americanpie.htm#note6 )  
Them good ol' boys were drinkin' whiskey 'n' rye [7](http://www.wilstar.com/midi/americanpie.htm#note7 )  
Singin this will be the day that I die.  
This will be the day that I die.

Did you write the book of love   
And do you have faith in God above,   
If the bible tells you so.   
And do you believe in rock 'n' roll?   
Can music save your mortal soul?   
And can you teach me how to dance real slow?   
  
Well I know that you're in love with him   
Cuz I saw you dancin' in the gym.   
You both kicked off your shoes  
And I dig those rhythm and blues.   
  
I was a lonely teenage bronkin' buck   
With a pink carnation and a pick up truck   
But I knew I was out of luck,   
The day, the music, died.  
I started singin...

***Refrain***

Now for ten years we've been on our own   
And moss grows fat on a rollin stone   
But that's not how it used to be,   
When the jester sang for the king and queen   
In a coat he borrowed from James Dean   
And a voice that came from you and me.   
  
Oh and while the king was looking down,   
The jester stole his thorny crown   
The courtroom was adjourned;   
No verdict was returned.   
  
And while Lennon read a book on Marx,   
The quartet practiced in the park   
And we sang dirges in the dark,   
The day, the music, died.   
We were singin'...

***Refrain***

Helter Skelter in a summer swelter   
The birds flew off with a fallout shelter,  
Eight miles high and fallin' fast.   
It landed foul on the grass.   
The players tried for a forward pass   
With the jester on the sidelines in a cast.   
  
Now the half-time air was sweet perfume   
While the sergeants played a marching tune.   
We all got up to dance   
Oh but we never got the chance.   
  
As the players tried to take the field   
The marching band refused to yield.   
Do you recall what was revealed,   
the day, the music, died?   
We started singin'...

***Refrain***

Oh and there we were all in one place,   
A generation lost in space   
With no time left to start again.   
So come on, Jack be nimble, Jack be quick.   
Jack Flash sat on a candle stick   
Because fire is the devils only friend.   
  
Oh and as I watched him on the stage,   
My hands were clinched in fists of rage,   
No angel born in hell   
Could break that Satan's spell.   
  
And as the flames climbed high into the night   
To light the sacrificial rite   
I saw Satan laughing with delight,   
The day, the music, died.   
He was singin'...

***Refrain***

I met a girl who sang the blues   
And I asked her for some happy news   
But she just smiled and turned away.   
I went down to the sacred store   
Where I'd heard the music years before   
But the man there said the music wouldn't play.   
  
And in the streets the children screamed,   
The lovers cried, and the poets dreamed.   
But not a word was spoken,   
The church bells all were broken.   
  
And the three men I admire most,   
The Father, Son, and the Holy Ghost,   
They caught the last train for the coast,   
The day, the music, died.   
And they were singin'...

***Refrain***

They were singin'...

Bye, bye Miss American Pie   
Drove my Chevy to the levee but the levee was dry   
Them good ol' boys were drinkin' whiskey 'n' rye   
Singin' this will be the day that I die.